

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 OPIC-06 /119 W
-----061978 170827Z/14

P 170748Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5374

UNCLAS TOKYO 2678

DEPT PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE FOR SAYLOR ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD
SUBJECT: STRAUSS/USHIBA FOLLOWUP: INTER-INDUSTRY CITRUS GROUP

REF: A) STATE 036437 B) FASTO 97 C) TOKYO 1892 D) TOKYO 2412

1. SUMMARY: MAF HAS STUDIED SUBSTANCE REF A AND IN INFORMAL WORKING LEVEL RESPONSE, ATTEMPTED TO PUT BEST FOOT FORWARD DESPITE VOCAL AGONIZING OVER DIFFICULTIES PERCEIVED.
END SUMMARY.

2. MAY WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS HAD ENVISIONED FORMATION OF SEPARATE STUDY ENTITIES, I.E. A U.S. STUDY TEAM ON ONE HAND, A JAPANESE TEAM ON OTHER --EACH INDEPENDENTLY PURSUING ITS OWN ACTIVITIES. HOWEVER, MAF ACCEPTED EMBASSY'S OBSERVATION THAT SPIRIT OF STRAUSS/USHIBA STATEMENT AND TEXT OF REF A IS THAT CITRUS STUDY SHOULD BE COMBINED EFFORT AND IS WILLING TO SUPPORT THIS CONCEPT.

3.MAF HAS NOT YET SELECTED ITS TEAM MEMBERS BUT EXPECTS TO INCLUDE GROWERS, PROCESSORS, MERCHANTISERS AND POSSIBLY UNCLASSIFIED

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IMPORTERS. MAF UNCERTAIN HOW TO PROCEED ON IMPORTERS SINCE SEVERAL MEMBERS OF U.S. TEAM HAVE BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS WITH CERTAIN JAPANESE IMPORTERS, AND IF THESE IMPORTERS INCLUDED DISPROPORTIONATELY ON TEAM, MAF BELIEVES MIGHT RESULT IN LESS OBJECTIVE REPRESENTATION OF JAPANESE IMPORTERS AS A WHOLE. EMBASSY COMMENTED THAT CONSIDERATION COULD BE GIVEN TO REQUESTING ONE OR BOTH LOCAL IMPORTERS' ASSOCIATIONS TO FILL THE ROLE. MAY

ALSO PLANS INCLUDE NON-GOVERNMENT CHAIRMAN AND GOVERNMENT OBSERVER(S) IN ADVISORY CAPACITY.

4. MAF WILL WORK WITH INDUSTRY IN PREPARING TO RECEIVE TEAM MARCH 20-22 AS REQUESTED REF B BUT THEY SUGGEST CHANGING DATES TO MARCH 22-24 SINCE 21ST IS JAPANESE HOLIDAY. AT SAME TIME, MAF INDICATES IT WILL CABLE JAPANESE AGATTACHE IN WASHINGTON STATING PREFERENCE THAT U.S. TEAM VISIT BE DELAYED BY ONE OR TWO WEEKS TO ALLOW MORE TIME FOR JAPANESE GROWER AND POLITICAL RESISTANCE (REF C) TO WEAKEN AND WHEN "ENVIRONMENT WILL BE MORE FERTILE" FOR PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSION. IN ANY CASE HOWEVER, MAF PREPARED TO ACCEPT LATE MARCH VISIT.

5. MAF STATES THAT IT FULLY UNDERSTANDS OBJECTIVES AND IS WILLING TO DISCUSS ALL GENERAL TERMS OF REFERENCE CONTAINED PARA 6 REF A. HOWEVER, MAY STRONGLY REQUESTS THAT FOR PRESS RELEASE PURPOSES (SEE REF C), MENTION OF QUOTA LIBERALIZATION BE DELETED SO AS NOT TO AROUSE IRE OF GROWERS AND TO FACILITATE MAF EFFORTS IN ORGANIZING TEAM. MAF SUGGESTS LANGUAGE SUCH AS "THE GROUP SHALL DISCUSS MEANS OF EXPANDING TOTAL CONSUMPTION OF CITRUS" (WITHOUT REFERNCE TO U.S. OR JAPAN) IN LIEU OF ITEM C, PARA 6.

FINALLY, IN ITEM A, PARA 6, MAF SUGGESTS SENTENCE BE EXTENDED SO THAT "AND AMERICA," FOLLOW "JAPAN." LIKEWISE, IN ITEMS B AND D, MAF SUGGESTS THAT "AND AMERICA" FOLLOWS "JAPANESE."

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MAF STATES THAT PURPOSE OF SUGGESTED ADDITIONS IS TO SHOW JAPANESE RESOLVE TO STUDY U.S. MARKET, AND INDICATES JAPANESE MEMBERS WILL WANT TO VISIT U.S. AT LEAST ONCE. MAF REQUESTS THAT IF USG PLANS PRESS STATEMENT, MAY PREFERENCES ITS RELEASE AFTER FIRST WEEK OF MARCH BY WHICH TIME IT EXPECTS JFY 78 APPROPRIATIONS TO HAVE BEEN PASSED BY THE DIET.

MANSFIELD

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NNN

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Draft Date: 17 feb 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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